

Ridden On Ride – Sunday 19 Feb 2012 Ride leader Ken / Tail End Charlie Matt

It was gratifying that 80 bikes and scooters turned out to participate in the MRA Ridden On Ride for 2012. This year the ride was particularly important for the Samrats and for many others in the motor cycling community because it was the first Ridden On Ride without Jock Rogan our past ride captain and Samrats coordinator who died of illness in December 2012.

Sue Jock's wife came on the ride in Dutchy's side car and it was good to see her out and about and surrounded by friends on this day for remembering loved ones who have passed on. Brenton (Trogg) rode Jock's Honda 1800 cruiser with the flames on the tank and the loudest pipes in history which was another reminder of Jock.

It was also a very raw emotional event for the CMA members who came on the ride because the day before one of their riders died while on a CMA club ride. At the briefing before the ride a CMA representative talked of how deeply they felt the tragedy and the need for us all to support each other especially those riders who were present at the accident. We need to live life to the fullest as we don't know what is in store for us just around the corner.

On a lighter note the weather on the day was excellent as the rain the night before had stopped and the temperature was probably not going over about 32. Harold from the MRA committee organised the manufacture of the badges and also sold them on the morning before we departed. The Victoria Hotel put on a good and cheap breakfast of bacon and egg roll and coffee and most of the riders took advantage of it. This MRA ride is an interclub event with Samrats, Sabers, CMA and a few from other clubs attending. We also had 2 or 3 new riders who had not been on club rides before to welcome.

After the briefing we rode Main South Rd to Second Valley where the atmosphere was very clear and the ocean very still and it was as usual a very beautiful environment. Simon conducted a service where he reminded us of how precious life is, how we could live it to the fullest and 'seize the day' and what mattered most was finding meaning and purpose for our lives. Phil the MRA secretary read out the names of those in the Adelaide motor cycling community who had died in the last 12 months and then those who had died in the last few years. The Ridden On Ride is a way to remember those riders who we have known and are not longer with us but they live on in our memories.

After the service about 40 bikes continued on to Victor Harbor via Delamere Road the 50 kms making a great ride especially on days like this when there was little wind. Lunch for most of us was hot dogs on the grass. The weather was still holding out well and Victor Harbor had a cool sea breeze. About 15 riders took off for the afternoon ride with Rohan leading, taking some back roads to Mount Compass, then Nangkita, Bull Creek and to Meadows for afternoon tea.

I think the atmosphere and general vibe of the ride was appropriately reverent but also quite uplifting, inspiring and positive. Thanks to all the riders who attended on the day as the Ridden On Ride does not work as well without the support of the other participating clubs. Thanks to Simon for his positive and thoughtful words, Rohan for leading the afternoon ride and Matt for being Tail End Charlie.

Ken King – Samrats Corodinator.